Message Text

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 15564 131335Z

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53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4609

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

.USMISSION BERLIN 1799

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD POUCH

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AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CZ, GE, GW, UR

SUBJECT: PRAVDA CHORTLES OVER FRG-CZECH TREATY

REF: BONN 17874

1. FIRST SOVIET COMMENTARY ON SIGNING OF FRG-CZECH NOMALIZATION TREATY (PRAVDA DECEMBER 13) PAINTS IT IN GLOWING TERMS AS SUCCESS FOR POLITICAL REALISM AND MAJOR STEP TOWARD STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 15564 131335Z

COOPERATION IN EUROPE. MAJOR CREDIT GOES, OF

COURSE, TO POLICY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, USSR, AND OTHER SOCIALIST STATES (GDR IS NOT SINGLED OUT), WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO IMPORTANCE OF 1970 FRG-SOVIET TREATY. BRANDT'S "REALISTIC APPROACH" RATES HONORABLE MENTION, AND ATTITUDES OF HIS PREDECESSORS ARE DISMISSED BRIEFLY WITH STATEMENT THAT CZECH EXPRESSIONS OF GOOD WILL HAD LONG REMAINED UNANSWERED.

2. COMMENTING ON TREATY AT QUADRIPARTITE MEETING DECEMBER 13, FRG AMBASSADOR SAHM REFLECTED NONE OF THE SENSE OF ANTI-CLIMAX FELT IN BONN (REFTEL). HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD STRONGLY HOPED TO ACHIEVE THIS "MAIN GOAL" BEFORE PROCEEDING TO DISCUSSIONS WITH BULGARIA AND HUNGARY. PERHAPS A BIT DEFENSIVELY, SAHM NOTED THAT USSR AND FRG HAVE AGREED TO BEGIN EXPERT-LEVEL NEGOTIATIONS ON LEGAL ASSISTANCE QUESTION IN NEAR FUTURE.MELENCAMP

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